

Seattle-King County Department of Public Health

Rules and Regulations for Kennels and Pet Shops  
Adopted by authority of Seattle City Ordinance #98577

It shall be unlawful to operate a commercial kennel, boarding kennel, pet shop, pet kennel, cattery, or grooming shop unless the following requirements are met:

Construction, Facilities and Equipment:

1. All floors and walls in rooms, pens and cages used to retain animals or in areas where animals are clipped, groomed or created must be constructed of water impervious material, that can readily be cleaned, and must be maintained in good repair.
2. Hot and cold water must be conveniently available and a large sink or tub provided (minimum size 24" x 18" x 12").
3. Toilet and handwashing facilities with hot and cold running water must be conveniently available for personnel employed.
4. Utensils used for mixing of feed and feeding must be constructed of water impervious material and kept in good condition.
5. Feed and water containers must be constructed of metal or water impervious material that is readily cleanable.
6. Cages and kennels must be of sufficient size to allow for exercise and maintenance of sanitary conditions. Overcrowding must be avoided.

Sanitation:

1. All areas where equipment and feed are stored must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition free from insects and rodents.
2. Only equipment necessary to the operation of the licensed establishment shall be kept or stored on the premises and shall only be stored in a sanitary and orderly manner.
3. All cages, pens or kennels used for holding animals shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition and must be disinfected on a routine basis.

Feed and Care of Animals:

1. Proper feed and water shall be available at all times to the animals, according to the needs of the species.
2. Sick animals shall be separated from those appearing healthy and normal and, if for sale, shall be removed from display and sale. Sick animals shall be kept in isolation quarters with adequate ventilation to keep from contaminating well stock.
3. All animals must be free of external parasites when on display or for sale. All puppies and kittens must be given active or passive immunization for distemper before being sold.
4. In shops or departments with live animals or birds for sale, there shall be an attendant on duty at all times while the store is open, whose responsibility is the pet department, and the welfare of the pets held for sale or display. An attendant shall feed, water, and do necessary cleaning on days stores and shops are closed.

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